## **Disability Program Navigator**

See our program website at <a href="http://www.doleta.gov/disability/new-dpn-gra">http://www.doleta.gov/disability/new-dpn-gra</a> nts.cfm

## **Analysis**

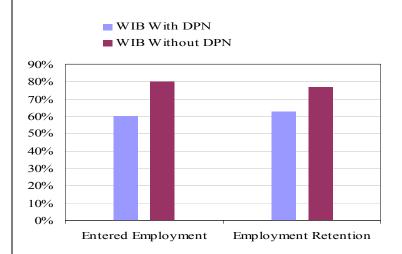
- WIBs with DPNs achieved a 60 percent Entered Employment Rate and 80 percent Employment Retention Rate. The retention rate is consistently greater for those WIBs with DPNs.
- The average earnings result for WIB with DPN program participants was \$10,862.

**Charting Program Performance** <sup>1</sup>

| Performance    | 12/31/07 2 |          | 12/31/08 3 |          |
|----------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Measure        |            |          |            |          |
|                |            |          |            |          |
|                | WIB        | WIB      | WIB        | WIB      |
|                | with       | without  | with       | without  |
|                | DPN        | DPN      | DPN        | DPN      |
| Entered        | 65%        | 68%      | 60%        | 63%      |
| Employment     |            |          |            |          |
| Retained       | 79%        | 76%      | 80%        | 77%      |
| Employment     |            |          |            |          |
| <u>Average</u> | \$9,856    | \$10,680 | \$10,862   | \$11,441 |
| Earnings       |            |          |            |          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> PY 2006 Data

## **Program Progress Current Quarter**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Data from April 2006 – March 2007. This includes only Rounds I and II DPN States. Also, this program receives data only annually and not quarterly.

## **Program Description**

In 2002, The Department of Labor (DOL) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) jointly funded the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) Initiative. The Initiative established a new position, the Disability Program Navigator, located within DOL's One-Stop Career Center system to create systemic change and provide enhanced services to people with disabilities. The DPN serves individuals with disabilities by:

- 1. Promoting effective physical, programmatic, and communication access; conducting outreach to the disability community.
- 2. Facilitating the development of "Integrated Resource Teams" to blend and braid services around an individual customer's needs.
- 3. Establishing linkages with the business community to develop hiring strategies to meet the demands of the 21st century workforce.
- 4. Developing strategic partnerships to leverage resources; and establishing comprehensive, seamless and integrated services to job seekers with disabilities.
- 1. Awarded two-year cooperative agreements to establish four (4) new DPN programs in Arkansas, Nevada, the Virgin Islands, and Guam.
- 2. Conducted several training webinars for the DPNs on the following topics: ADA Restoration Act Amendments; Asset Development; Understanding the Social Security Administration's (SSA) Work Incentives; Job Accommodation Network; Maturity Model; New DPN Orientation and Training; Overview of the One-Stop Toolkit; Integrated Resource Teams; and Effective Uses of 30-Second Trainings.
- 3. <u>Established a new Web site for</u> the DPN Initiative at: <a href="http://www.navigator.net/">http://www.navigator.net/</a>. NDI Consulting Inc.

- (The Technical Assistance contractor for the DPN Initiative) operates the Web site.
- 4. Developed and implemented an initiative to compile and disseminate promising practices.

  These practices illustrate how the DPN projects have been able to transform the way the workforce investment system serves people with disabilities. They have also expanded its capacity to provide more meaningful and effective employment opportunities for job seekers with disabilities. Activities will include developing case studies and videos for workforce3one.
- 5. Continued to develop materials and trainings to promote the One-Stop Career Centers actively participating in the SSA's Ticket to Work Program by becoming Employment Networks (ENs).